

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 986

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jennifer Higdon on winning the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Music.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those Tennesseans who have demonstrated exceptional skill in the craft of music composition, receiving international acclaim and accolades for their dedication and ability; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable composer is Jennifer Higdon, who has recently been awarded the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Music for her composition *Violin Concerto*, which premiered on February 6, 2009, in Indianapolis; and

WHEREAS, the Pulitzer Prize for Music is given each year for distinguished musical composition by an American that has had its first performance or recording in the United States during the year; and

WHEREAS, the awards are the culmination of a yearlong process that begins early in the year with the appointment of 102 distinguished judges who serve on twenty separate juries and are asked to make three nominations in each of the twenty-one categories; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Higdon will receive a medal and \$10,000 in conjunction with this prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the accolades her work drew from the Pulitzer Prize Board, Ms. Higdon recently won a Grammy Award for Best Classical Contemporary Composition for *Percussion Concerto*, performed by the London Philharmonic; she has previously won a Grammy in an engineering category for her March 2004 release *Cityscapes/Concerto for Orchestra*; and

WHEREAS, a 1981 graduate of Heritage High School in Blount County, Ms. Higdon spent her formative years under the musical tutelage of Band Director Larry Hicks; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Higdon's magnificent *Violin Concerto* is a work born from both her roots in Heritage High School's marching band and her remarkable career in classical composition, and the people of Tennessee are fortunate indeed, not only to have this fine music available to them, but also to count Ms. Higdon among their native citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Jennifer Higdon on winning the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Music and extend to her our best wishes for every success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.